The
Good
Shepherd
Humane Society,
Incorporated

P. O. BOX 105
EUREKA SPRINGS,
ARKANSAS 72632

May 1, 1985

Dear Friends:

The past year has been a year of change for the Society; thanks to all of you for your moral and financial support, and the many hours of work which so many of you have generously given. We now have paid a major portion of the cost of the Thrift shop and are looking forward to a celebration when we pay the remaining balance on our note, hopefully next year.

I particularly want to thank the Board members who have been very forward looking, using much foresight, and helping immeasureably with their guidance, for the many improvements, both at the Shelter and the Thrift shop, which have been completed or are well underway. Rather than enumerate these physical improvements, I invite each and every member to visit the Thrift shop and the Shelter, and see for yourself what we have accomplished.

Our Shelter manager, Judy, has contributed much to the change in the Shelter operation. I know that it has been very difficult for her to accept so many changes so fast. With the help of Mary Alice and Patsy, we now have an expanded dedicated crew to better provide for the increased demands of both a larger average population, but more importantly, a much expanded admission and adoption rate with the Shelter open many more hours each week.

Our By-Laws have been updated and with your support and approval of the proposed changes, we can look forward to more time for the Board to do more long range planning. The revisions are primarily to bring the By-Laws more in line with the changes which have resulted in a major increase in admissions and adoptions.

I would like to extend a personal invitation to each and every member and interested friends of animals to attend the Board meetings which are held on the second Monday of each month in the Hospitality room of The First Federal Savings & Loan Assn., starting at noon, and lasting until the subjects needing attention are addressed.

I have enjoyed the past several years companionship with you all, and I think we can all be very proud of our accomplishments to date, but we will continue to face increased challenges. Particularly, I want to thank Ken and Bobbi Bates for their many hours of devoted work. They have been instrumental in making many of the proposed changes in operation at the Shelter practical and acceptable to all of us who have been involved in the day to day operation of your Shelter.

I hope to see you at the Annual Meeting which will be held Monday, May 20, 1985 at 2:00 P.M. at The First Federal Savings & Loan Hospitality Room (Across from Eureka Drug)

C. C. Sprinkle, President

The Nominating Committee has offered the following Directors to be re-elected for three year terms: Clifford Cox, June Young, and Carmen Scott. Keep in mind that if the General Membership cares to nominate persons for the above, the nominations need to be in the hands of the Secretary, Beth Brewer, by May 6, 1985.

In lieu of a program there will be a vote on the changes in the By-Laws and a trip to the Shelter to see the improvements that have been made.

Great things have been happening at the Shelter since C. C. and Ken started spending most of their waking hours there. New Shelter procedures have been initiated, improving the care of the animals, the sanitation of the building, better storage for food, prompt inoculations for each animal admitted, a cattery we are justifiable proud of, repairs to the building which were long overdue, and a host of other improvements that require a sharp eye and a strong back.

One of the finest improvements has been rearranging the pens, each to hold fewer dogs (with fewer fights among the occupants) and walkways that enable prospective owners to see more of the animals. Brush and weeds have been cleared away and the ground has been covered with gravel from the creek and that replaces the quagmire which normally resulted after rain. This makes it easier for Judy and Mary Alice to care for the pens. The Eureka Springs Garden Club donated several trees and is having them planted in some of the pens to provide shade from the hot summer sun. Jerome Rosewater, our loyal volunteer helper, has also built some brush covered arbors for the same purpose.

Thanks to our volunteers, we now have a neat little office where Judy can keep the Shelter records up to date and where she can council prospective owners and interview owners who are relinquishing their pets to our care.

All of the above work has been done by a small group of volunteers with the help of two husky contract laborers. And speaking of volunteers, there must be some of you out there who love animals and have a few hours a week to spare to help these devoted few. If so, please call C. C. or Ken at 253-9188 and let them know what you can do and how much time you can spare.

Supplies for these improvements, especially fencing and gates, have been very expensive, but necessary if we are to keep the Shelter operating. This has strained our budget to the breaking point, especially in view of the recent influx of dogs and cats. Even so, the Thrift Shop has managed, by increased sales, to pay 62% of their own and the Shelter expense. The other 38% of our budget is supplied by income from adoptions, relinquishments and your generous donations.

A complete breakdown of income and expense will be given to you at the Annual Meeting to be held at The First Federal & Savings Loan Assn., hospitality room on Monday, May 20 at 2:00 P.M.

On May 1, 1984, we had 40 dogs and 21 cats at the Shelter. Since that time 128 dogs and 64 cats have been brought to us. During this same period 86 dogs and 42 cats have been adopted. And one statistic we are very happy to announce is that 26 dogs and 5 cats have been returned to their owners. This encourages us to plead with you, if you, or if you know of someone who has lost a pet, ask them to call the Shelter 253-9188 or Judy at 253-8772, because we may have your animal, and please, if you love your pet, have an ID tag on their collar. The above figures are for only 11 months because our fiscal year starts with May and we do not have the final figures in time for this Newsletter. However, we will have final figures for you at the Annual Meeting to be held at First Federal Savings & Loan Assn., hospitality room on May 20, 1985 at 2:00 P.M.

Our animal population has increased to such an extent this month that we are bursting at the seams and we will be forced to make way for the new ones that will be coming in soon. If you can adopt a pet, or can add one to what you already have, or if you know of someone who would like a four legged friend, have them call or call yourself and put us in touch with a prospective owner.

Since our policy, now being enforced, is for all animals to be vaccinated before they are put in communal pens, and all adoptable animals spayed or neutered if they are of suitable age, our vet bills are soaring. We could use your help with this project. It is helping, in a small way, to control our unwanted animal population, which is caused by the public allowing careless breeding.

Since the first of the year our low water bridge has been washed out several times. That means employees and volunteers either wade or walk the rails to get to the Shelter. Plans are being discussed by the County and Mr. Dortch, of the railroad, for a cooperative installation of a 4 x 6 box culvert, 1 lane wide, the County to build the forms and furnish labor for it, and Mr. Dortch and his crew to furnish the bull dozer and operator, with the society furnishing the cement. These plans are not finalized but we are hoping that this can be accomplished before we have too many more heavy rains.

Our Thrift Shop, in being "First Time Homeowners: for almost a year has found that such a BIG STEP was the right one. Our sales have increased 7% plus over last year. We have paid interest on our loan and have retired over half of the principal and hope to have our "Doggie Shop" free and clear before the end of next fiscal year.

None of these accomplishments could be possible without the faithful volunteers who sort,price and sell donated merchandise six days a week. There are too many to mention individually, but they know they are appreciated and that they are doing a good job for the Shelter and also serving the people of our city. If you would like

to join this loyal crew, or know someone who would, call Tommye, June or Carmen at 253-9115.

Tommye Thomas, June Young and Carmen Scott are members of the Board who jointly supervise the activities at the Thrift Shop. June handles publicity and Carmen, a former jeweler, identifies the more valuable pieces donated and has donated a locked case for them. She also repairs many pieces that would be worthless otherwise. All three, with the help of Eva and the other volunteers, sort and price items that are donated, as well as dusting, vacumming and cleaning.

The Fashion Show in October was not only a social event, but it added $848.00 to the coffers. We've added new clothing racks and hangers and a "new" sorting table and carpet in the work room. The City was persuaded by Tommye to black top the driveway, so no more mud will be tracked in. At the moment a bright new coat of paint is going on the exterior of the building as a donation from one of our loyal contributors. All in All, it has been a very good year for our Thrift Shop, and a productive one.

Two other Board members spend a good deal of time and effort on the affairs of the Society, although they are not as visible as some. Beth Brewer is Secretary and as such keeps us in line at meetings and makes sense out of some fairly heated discussions for the Minutes. She also works at the Thrift Shop and has promoted several special sales for the shop. Doris Paul is Treasurer and handles all monies from the shop and other income, makes deposits and prepares monthly and annual reports for the Society and IRS as well as withholding reports. Her books are audited annually.

To all our loyal volunteers and our
generous contributors, THANK YOU

LET'S GO VISIT THE SHELTER